

## Community resources

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*courage is contagious*

## Viewing cable 06BRATISLAVA618, FM KUBIS: SLOVAKIA FOCUSED ON REGAINING MANAGEMENT

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

### Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

### Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#06BRATISLAVA618**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
<a href="#">06BRATISLAVA618</a>	<a href="#">2006-07-28 16:34</a>	<a href="#">2011-08-30 01:44</a>	<a href="#">CONFIDENTIAL</a>	<a href="#">Embassy Bratislava</a>

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/2011/05/16/114269/wikileaks-cables-show-oil-a-major.html>

VZCZCXRO4303  
PP RUEHDBU RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHROV RUEHSR  
DE RUEHSL #0618 2091634  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 281634Z JUL 06  
FM AMEMBASSY BRATISLAVA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0127  
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0591  
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY 3319  
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRATISLAVA 000618

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/27/2016  
TAGS: [ENRG](#) [ECON](#) [EPET](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [LO](#) [RS](#)  
SUBJECT: FM KUBIS: SLOVAKIA FOCUSED ON REGAINING MANAGEMENT  
CONTROL OF TRANSPETROL

REF: BRATISLAVA 000613

¶1. (C) At their July 28 meeting, Ambassador Vallee and Minister of Foreign Affairs Jan Kubis discussed next steps for the Slovak government in the Transpetrol situation. Ambassador Vallee emphasized that the impending sale of Yukos shares in Transpetrol needs to be carried out in a transparent manner that reflects market forces, and questioned whether GOS approval of a possible deal between Yukos and Gazprom would meet that criteria. The Ambassador expressed concern that, in his July 27 meeting with Minister of Economy Lubomir Jahnatek, the new Minister had shown considerable trepidation about offending Russian business interests (see reftel). The Ambassador stressed that Slovakia maintains significant leverage due to its veto authority over Yukos sales, the Russian court's lack of jurisdiction over Yukos Finance, and other factors.

¶2. (C) In response, Kubis emphasized that Slovakia's top priority in this process would be regaining management control of Transpetrol. Currently Slovakia owns 51 percent of Transpetrol shares, but Yukos holds management control. He said that Yukos Finance had shown no willingness to sell back its shares to Slovakia, so the GOS had to look for the next best solution. (Comment: We are not sure of the basis for this belief. Though his opinion was firm, Kubis admitted at the same time that he is not an energy expert. End Comment.) Kubis lamented that Slovakia's veto authority over any possible sale of Yukos shares runs out on May 1, 2007, so it would be necessary to finalize a solution before then. While concerned about the loss of veto power next year, Kubis did not, however, fully share Jahnatek's view that Slovakia absolutely needed to strike a deal before Yukos liquidation proceedings begin in early August.

¶3. (C) Minister Kubis said that he thought Gazprom could be convinced to grant management authority to the GOS as part of a deal, and believed that the Russians would fulfill their contractual obligations. Kubis added that a sale to the Polish firm PERN or another firm is still a viable option if Slovakia would gain management control of Transpetrol in the process. The Minister noted that the EU wanted Slovakia to buy back its shares from Yukos, but said that it was not realistic to expect Slovakia to stand up to Russia on energy contracts when all other EU members had failed to do so.  
VALLEE